

In sending specimens of plants for investigation it is desirable to include the entire plant; if it is too large, portions showing leaves, flowers, and fruit are sufficient. It is best to prepare the specimens by drying them under pressure between folds of absorbent paper, otherwise the parts may shrink and break so as to be hardly recognizable. When dried plants are sent they should be protected from breakage in the mail by being inclosed in sheets of paper between pieces of stiff pasteboard. If specimens are to be sent fresh, moisten them slightly and pack them tightly in a box or in a bundle, wrapping them in heavy paper. Write the name of the sender on the outside. In the letter accompanying the specimens state where each plant was collected, the date, the name of the collector, and add any other notes in regard to the economic value of the plant.

Packages weighing less than four pounds may be sent by mail at the rate of one cent per ounce.

United States Department of Agriculture,

Botanical Division,

Washington, D. C., Nov. 9, 1891.

Professor Sereno Watson,
Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Sir:

With this I send you a *Rhus* from Minnesota, which I consider a new variety of *Rhus glabra*. The plant blooms when only 6 inches high. This, with the few leaflets, and the pubescence of the young branches, make it a very marked variety. Please give me your judgment on this point.

Very truly yours,

John M. Holzinger,
Assistant Botanist.

Let me thank you cordially for your very kind answers to former letters.